

a four-year institution of higher learning in Corpus Christi, that was not what was most important to him.

The thing that he loved the most was the school that bore his name, the Luther Jones Elementary School, because he knew the silver bullet, the single most important thing in the life of a young person was education, pure and simple. He knew you had to get kids early to make an impression on them.

The children there loved him, and he loved them. He never missed a graduation; he came to every event and spoke to everyone there. He wanted these young people to know there was an adult who believed in them. And they believe in him.

In the weeks just before the mayor passed, the children at Luther Jones Elementary were building a monument to him. The pentagon-shaped monument had words on each side of it most often associated with the mayor: Integrity, Honesty, Perseverance, Success, and Victory. These were the traits of the only man ever afforded the title of Mayor Emeritus in the history of Corpus Christi.

If the measure of a man is in the number of lives touched, of positive changes made, Corpus Christi Mayor Emeritus Luther Jones will be the yardstick by which the rest of us are measured. I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering this great American patriot today.

RECOGNIZING THE GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. SHERWOOD L. BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 2002

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of the legacy of Juliette Gordon Low. Ninety years ago this week, she founded an institution—the Girl Scouts of the United States of America—which has since inspired over 50 million American women.

In our nation, over two and a half million young women participate in this institution that has a simple goal—to endow our girls with self-confidence, responsibility, integrity and leadership skills; and to help them develop physically, mentally and spiritually into successful adults.

Further, as Chairman of the House Committee on Science, I would like to commend the efforts of the Girl Scouts to close the gap in math and science education that exists between our boys and our girls. While only around one-fifth of our scientists and engineers are women, the Girl Scouts are working to expose girls to a wide variety of experiences and career choices and open new opportunities for girls in science.

Also today, I would like to recognize the fortieth anniversary of the Foothills Girl Scout Council in my Congressional district. This year, along with other outstanding young women across the country, Jennifer Fleischer, Krystina Novak and Jessica Walker from the Foothills Girl Scout Council have earned the Girl Scout Gold Award. They have done so through considerable efforts and contributions to their communities, and I congratulate them on their wonderful achievements.

Girl Scouts of the United States of America, I salute you at your ninetieth anniversary, and

thank you for strengthening the minds, bodies and spirits of America's girls and young women.

GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. ERNEST J. ISTOOK, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 2002

Mr. ISTOOK. Mr. Speaker, this week is the 90th anniversary of Girl Scouting in America. After its founding in 1912, and its Congressional Charter in 1950, it has grown to a membership of over 2.7 million girls. Today, in Oklahoma, there are 25,000 Girl Scouts, with 8,500 volunteers helping girls develop to their full potential. Evidence has demonstrated that the more time a girl spends in Girl Scouts, the more likely she is to be drug free, avoid sexual activity that can lead to unwanted pregnancy, and attend college. I commend all of the leaders across America who are working to make our children's lives better, and to prepare the next generation for a healthy and productive future.

ACKNOWLEDGING AHEPA'S SALUTE TO AMERICA

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 2002

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), the largest and oldest association of Americans of Greek heritage and Philhellenes. This entity plans to honor and memorialize members of the community who perished in the tragic events of September 11, 2001. It will also salute those who have carried out courageous acts or performed tremendous philanthropic and humanitarian deeds during one of the most trying moments of our country's history.

The attack on America was an assault upon the values of democracy which have enabled our nation to persevere with strength and resolve for well over two hundred years. These values, given to Western Civilization by the ancient Greeks, comprise our freedoms, our liberty, and our commitment to uphold justice. Together these ideals, combined with the American tradition of tolerance for people of different faiths and ethnic backgrounds, will help us to overcome our current challenges and be victorious in our common fight against terrorism.

On March 25, 2002, in the spirit of that tradition, the descendants of ancient Greece, who as immigrants came to America because of the very democratic ideals fostered by their ancestors, will come together to "Honor America." This event will be hosted by the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association, an organization founded by visionary Greek immigrants eighty years ago. They will pay their respects to family, friends, neighbors, and fellow citizens, who lost their lives to terror and will express their humble gratitude to those who placed their lives in harm's way to save the lives of others.

President George W. Bush, in an address on November 8, 2001, said our nation was

born in a spirit of courage and optimism "as immigrants yearning for freedom courageously risked their lives in search of greater opportunity." The decedents of Greek immigrants offer thanks and pay homage to America, warmly embracing this spirit of optimism and courage that President Bush said "must guide those of us fortunate enough to live here."

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the efforts of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association to honor, memorialize, and salute members of the community affected by the sad events of September 11, 2001, during the organization's 35th Biennial Congressional Banquet, held March 25, 2002, in Washington, DC.

HAPPY 90TH ANNIVERSARY, GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 2002

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to congratulate and thank the Girl Scouts of the USA for their 90 years of service and dedication to the young women of our nation.

I am extremely blessed to have two extraordinary Girl Scout Councils in my district that truly deserve to be honored during this 90th Anniversary Celebration. Serving over 4,000 girls, the Green Meadows and Centrillio Girl Scout Councils have clearly demonstrated their strong commitment to the development of strong and confident young women. We must not forget that these women are those who will become the future leaders of our communities, our nation, and our world. In addition, the Girl Scouts have throughout their history allowed many adult volunteers the opportunity to reach out to young women in the community and act as positive role models and mentors.

I ask all of my colleagues in the House to join me in taking the time this week and throughout the year of their 90th Anniversary Celebration to honor the Girl Scouts of the USA for their hard work and dedication in providing an atmosphere "Where Girls Grow Strong".

THE SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2001 COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 14, 2002

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the "September 11th, 2001 Commemorative Coin Act" which calls for the introduction of a circulating commemorative coin that would honor the victims of the events of September 11th.

A generation ago, the events of December 7th, 1941 became not only a day of infamy, but also a reference point that no one has forgotten. My father knows precisely where he was on that Sunday in December, just as I suspect nearly all Americans know what they were doing when the World Trade Center and the Pentagon were attacked.